

Applicants : Niall R. Lynam and John O. Lindahl
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REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's review of the specification, claims, and drawings. In light of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application. No new matter has been entered.

Status of the Claims:

Claims 130-133, 135-151, 153-184, 251, and 252 are presently pending in the application. Claim 152 has been cancelled herein. Claims 1-129, 134, and 185-250 were previously canceled.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103:

The Examiner rejects Claims 130-133, 135-138, 152-159, 163, 164, 167-171, 178, and 252 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,671,996 to Bos et al. in view of National Semiconductor (LM78S40) Universal Switching Regulator Subsystem Data Sheet.

Applicants respectfully traverse. Notwithstanding, Applicants have amended Claim 130 to more clearly define Applicants' invention which now calls for:

An improved lighting system for a vehicle, the vehicle having a battery/ignition voltage, said lighting system comprising:

- an accessory module assembly adapted for attachment to an interior portion of a vehicle;
- said accessory module assembly configured to illuminate an area inside the vehicle when said accessory module assembly is attached to said interior portion of the vehicle;
- said accessory module assembly comprising a single non-incandescent light source, said single light source comprising a single high-current high-intensity power light emitting diode;
- said single high-current high-intensity power light emitting diode delivering a luminous efficiency of at least about 1 lumen/watt when operated at a forward current of at least about 100 milliamps and a forward operating voltage less than about 5 volts;

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a voltage conversion element operable to step-down an input voltage and to step-up an input current, said voltage conversion element having an output voltage and an output current whereby the ratio of said input voltage of said voltage conversion element to said output voltage of said voltage conversion element is at least about 2 to 1 and wherein the ratio of said input current of said voltage conversion element to said output current of said voltage conversion element is at least about 1 to 2; and

and said voltage conversion element providing said outputs to said single high-current high-intensity power light emitting diode whereby said output current is at least about 100 milliamps and said output voltage is less than about 5 volts.

Applicants respectfully urge that Bos does not disclose or suggest the claimed combination. For example, Bos does not disclose or suggest a lighting system that includes an accessory module assembly comprising a single non-incandescent light source, with the single non-incandescent light source comprising a single high-current high-intensity power light emitting diode for illuminating an area, wherein the single high-current high-intensity power light emitting diode delivers a luminous efficiency of at least about 1 lumen per watt when operated at a forward current of at least about 100 milliamps and a forward voltage of less than about 5 volts and, further, in combination with a voltage conversion element, wherein the voltage conversion element operable to step-down an input voltage and a step-up an input current, the voltage conversion element having an output voltage and an output current wherein the ratio of the input voltage of the voltage conversion element to the output voltage of the voltage conversion element is at least about 2 to 1 and wherein the ratio of the input current of the voltage conversion element to the output current of the voltage conversion element is at least about 1 to 2 with the voltage conversion element providing the outputs to the single high-current high-intensity power light emitting diode and wherein the output current is at least about 100 milliamps and the output voltage is less than about 5 volts. Nor does National Semiconductor (LM78S40) Universal Switching Regulator Subsystem Data Sheet cure the deficiencies of Bos.

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Further, Claim 252, which depends on amended Claim 130, calls for a power resistor in series with the single high intensity power light emitting diode. This combination is also not taught nor suggested by the prior art.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully urge that Claim 130 and its dependent claims, namely Claims 131-133, 135-151, 153-184, 251, and 252 are patentably distinguishable over Bos in view of National Semiconductor (LM78S40) Universal Switching Regulator Subsystem Data Sheet or in view of any other reference of record.

The Examiner rejects Claims 139-151, 160-162, 165, 166, 172-177, 179-184, and 251 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Bos in view of National Semiconductor (LM78S40) Universal Switching Regulator Subsystem Data Sheet and, further, in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,676,668 to Collins.

Claims 139-151, 160-162, 165, 166, 172-177, 179-184, and 251 depend from amended Claim 130 and, therefore, patentably distinguishable over Bos in view of the National Semiconductor (LM78S40) Universal Switching Regulator Subsystem Data Sheet. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that Collins does not cure the deficiencies of either Bos nor the Data Sheet. For example, Collins does not disclose or suggest a lighting system that includes an accessory module assembly comprising a single non-incandescent light source, with the single non-incandescent light source comprising a single high-current high-intensity power light emitting diode for illuminating an area wherein the single high-current high-intensity power light emitting diode delivers a luminous efficiency of at least about 1 lumen per watt when operated at a forward current of at least about 100 milliamps and a forward voltage of less than about 5 volts and, further, in combination with a voltage conversion element operable to step-down an input voltage and a step-up an input current, the voltage conversion element having an output voltage and an output current wherein the ratio of the input voltage of the voltage conversion element to the output voltage of the voltage

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conversion element is at least about 2 to 1 and wherein the ratio of the input current of the voltage conversion element to the output current of the voltage conversion element is at least about 1 to 2 with the voltage conversion element providing the outputs to the single high-current high-intensity power light emitting diode and wherein the output current is at least about 100 milliamps and the output voltage is less than about 5 volts. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 139-151, 160-162, 165, 166, 172-177, 179-184, and 251 are patentably distinguishable over Bos in view of the Data Sheet and, further, in view of Collins.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and a Notice of Allowance of all claims, namely Claims 130-133, 135-151, 153-184, and 251-252.

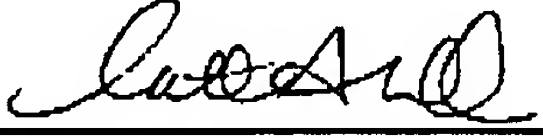
Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (616) 975-5506.

Respectfully submitted,

NIALL R. LYNAM ET AL.

By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhart, LLP

October 7, 2005
Date


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